

News *from the* City of Gardner

A newsletter published for the residents of the City of Gardner
City Hall • 120 E. Main St. • Gardner, KS 66030 • 856-0939

January - February 2006

A Look Back at 2005 and What is Upcoming in 2006

Gardner completed many important projects in 2005, while laying the groundwork for many key endeavors in 2006. With goals of maintaining and improving current City services and focusing on planning for our future, the City of Gardner is eager to share highlights of 2005 and a look at 2006.

Parks and Recreation—2005 was an exciting year for Park and Recreation in Gardner. The new eleven-acre Stone Creek Park was opened east of Moonlight



Elementary School, in the center of the Wildcat Run, Pumpkin Ridge and Cottage Creek subdivisions. The new park features a large playground, shelter, and walking path. Also, the City is continuing to focus on maintaining its current

facilities. Westside Park received new outfield fencing and infield grading

In June, voters were asked if they would support a ½ cent sales tax for the purpose of expanding the Cornerstone Park pool to an aquatic facility and if they would like to see a community park and sports complex developed. The sales tax passed by over 70% and work began immediately on the two projects. In 2006, staff will continue working on

finalizing the designs for both facilities, which are scheduled to open in 2007. (see pg. 4 for an update)

In addition to completion of work on the community park and aquatic facilities designs, Parks and Recreation will be working on lighting replacement at Westside Park, adding tennis court lights at the high school, and purchasing land for a new neighborhood park similar to Winwood and Stone Creek. The new park will also be designed in 2006, for construction in 2007.

Public Safety—The City of Gardner purchased 2.25 acres for its second Public Safety Station to be located along 183rd Street, east of Center in 2005. Construction of the new station is scheduled to begin 2006. A new Pumper was purchased in 2005 that will move to the new station. It is fully equipped with the latest technology and is already serving Gardner.



In January 2006, Gardner hired Rob Kirk, a new Captain for the Fire Division. This position enhances our Public Safety operation by adding more specialization. The department continues to grow and diversify to meet the changing needs of Gardner's population and businesses.

Gardner City Council Sees Changing Faces



At the January 3, 2006 City Council meeting, Celia Duran officially resigned as City Council Member to accept the position of Staff Engineer with the City of Gardner. Duran has been serving as a City Council member since 1999. Prior to serving on the Council, Duran served on the Gardner Planning Commission. Tom Breen has been appointed to complete the unexpired term, which ends in 2009. Mayor Carol Lehman said, "Tom's experience on the Planning Commission will be very valuable as he steps into the City Council seat. He has taken part in formulating our comprehensive plan and he is well-versed in development issues."

Mr. Breen has lived in Gardner since 1981 and his two daughters graduated from Gardner Edgerton High School. He served on the Planning Commission from 1993 to 1998 and the Board of Zoning Appeals from 2000 to 2002. He was reappointed to the Planning Commission in 2002 and elected to Chairman of the Planning Commission in April of 2005.



The Mayor's Message



Dear Residents,

Greetings for a great 2006! Gardner is looking forward to an exciting year, with many important projects already underway. Our community is fortunate to have a dedicated City Council and Staff working hard to make sure Gardner is moving toward the future, while continuing to provide quality service and a solid infrastructure.

So far this year, we've seen the walls rising for Wal-Mart, located at Cedar Niles Road and East Santa Fe. This development will include a 190,000 sq. ft. Wal-Mart Super Center with groceries, as well as other retail and restaurant sites. It is scheduled to open in mid-2006.

In addition to new commercial development, there are other projects underway in Gardner that will provide expanded services and amenities for our residents:

In the northwest area of town, two new developments will bring approximately 610 new homes, a new middle school and a new Community Park. The Park will share athletic facilities with the middle school and host soccer, baseball, softball and other recreation activities for the community. Your approval of a ½ cent sales tax in June 2005, has made the dream of a Community Park possible, as well as the expansion of the Cornerstone Park Pool to an Aquatic Park. Both projects will begin construction in 2006.

The construction of a second Public Safety Station is also slated for 2006 along 183rd Street east of Center Street.

Hard to believe, but Gardner will be 150 years old in March 2007! We are beginning plans for a celebration that will allow us to come together to commemorate our heritage and hold a 150th Birthday Party.

I hope you enjoy all that Gardner has to offer in 2006 and I wish you a very peaceful and prosperous new year!

 , Mayor

New Planning Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals Appointments

The City Council approved Paul Kilgore to fill the unexpired term of new Councilmember Tom Breen on the Planning Commission on January 3rd. John Ballou resigned from the Planning Commission and Jason R. Burnett was appointed to fill his term on January 3rd. Paul Kilgore moved to Gardner in 1999. Jason Burnett moved to Gardner in 2004.



The Council also appointed Andy Copeland to the Board of Zoning Appeals to fill the unexpired term of Dan Popp, who was appointed to the Planning Commission in April 2005. Andy moved to Gardner in 2005.

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A Look Back at 2005 and What is Upcoming in 2006, cont.

(Continued from page 1)

Public Works—Never slowing down, Public Works was on the move in 2005 with a variety of major projects from streets to electrical. This year also looks to be another busy one for Public Works.

Street Improvement and Development—North Center Street project was substantially completed in 2005, consisting of expansion of the roadway from two to four lanes, addition of a new pedestrian pathway and installation of new water, wastewater, and storm water lines. The finishing touches on this \$4 million project will be completed in Spring 2006.

Another key project in 2005 was the replacement of the Downtown sidewalks. New benches and landscaping were part of this project that totaled just over \$300,000.

The City oversaw the reconstruction of Lincoln Lane, east of Moonlight Road, and the connection of the new Stone Creek Drive to New Century Parkway. This project was completed late fall 2005. In 2006, Lincoln Lane west of Moonlight Road will also be reconstructed and curb and gutter added. This project will connect Lincoln Lane from Moonlight Road to Cedar Street west of Moonlight Plaza and is estimated to cost just over \$1.5 million.

Gardner also completed another season of the asphalt and concrete rehabilitation program. This program will continue in 2006 with a budget of \$300,000. Watch to see if your street will be receiving a facelift in upcoming editions of the newsletter.

In 2005, work continued on the engineering for the expansion of Moonlight Road north of Waverly to 167th. In January 2006, a left turn signal was installed on Moonlight Road, southbound, and Main Street, to assist in reducing stacking at the intersection during train passing. Construction for the expansion of the intersection is scheduled to begin in 2007 as part of the Moonlight Road expansion project.

Santa Fe and Cedar Niles and 56 Highway expansion project will be completed in the first quarter of 2006. This project is being done in advance of Wal-Mart, which is scheduled to open next summer.

In the northwest, the new Kill Creek Road was constructed, connecting 167th Street west of Waverly to 159th Street. This new road will serve the new Middle School, which is under construction, as well as the new community park.

Water Improvement and Development—In 2005, the City began the expansion of the Hillsdale Water Plant from a 2 million gallon to a 4 million gallon a day plant. The project is scheduled to be substantially complete by

summer 2006 in time for peak demand. The project's maximum guaranteed cost is \$7.359 million and will serve Gardner's growing need for water.

The City also completed another year of its waterline replacement program, spending approximately \$800,000 on replacing aging water lines. In 2006, the City plans to replace \$500,000 worth of waterlines.

Wastewater Improvement and Development—The \$1.3 million East Lift Station project was completed in 2005. This project allowed the City to remove the wastewater lagoons located to the east of Conestoga Home Park. While this project was wrapping up, design work for a new North Lift Station, to be located near 167th and North Center Street, was underway. Lines for the project were laid before the construction of the road along North Center Street. Construction of the lift station is scheduled to begin in 2006.

The Bull Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant is scheduled to be converted to a lift station in 2006. Design work on this project also began in 2005. The project is estimated to cost over \$5 million.

The City also completed the rehabilitation of the Grand Street wastewater line in 2005. The project will assist in accommodating the growth in southwest Gardner. The City has also begun a wastewater line replacement program that will begin in 2006.

Electric Improvement and Development—Substation 3 and Transmission Line Project continued throughout 2005, with minor delays due to hurricane demands on the contractors. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2006, to allow for growth in northwestern Gardner and provide improved service to existing customers. The new substation is located north of 167th Street along Waverly Road. The cost is estimated at just over \$7.4 million.

In 2005, the South Main Street Circuit was rehabilitated, improving the reliability of the circuit. In 2006, the City will replace overhead lines in the Manor subdivision to improve reliability in that area as well.

Over \$420,000 of improvements will be made to the existing system in 2006 as a part of the City's annual maintenance programs. Additionally, the City will continue its annual tree trimming program to help prevent weather related outages that occur when trees come in contact with overhead electrical lines.

The following were also part of the 2005 successes for the City of Gardner:

- Online payment and automatic bank drafting for utilities
- Acquisition of eleven acres for a runway protection zone for the Gardner Municipal Airport
- Design of a new City website to be rolled out to you in the first quarter of 2006

Park Sales Tax Projects Move Forward

The City of Gardner has been working diligently on the design of the two new Parks and Recreation facilities approved by the voters of Gardner in June 2005. Each facility has a committee comprised of Parks and Recreation staff, a City Councilmember, and knowledgeable sports enthusiasts in the community.

Both projects remain in design phase. Completion of the designs for both projects are anticipated this spring. Construction documents will then be prepared for bidding. Bidding is anticipated for both projects in late spring or early summer 2006. Cornerstone Pool will be



open as usual for the 2006 season. Once it closes in August, work will begin on the expansion to include a lazy river, zero depth entry, and much more. Work on the Community Park is anticipated to also begin in the fall of 2006.

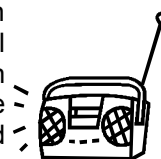
Watch for updates throughout 2006.

Do you have a Hazard Alert-Weather Radio? You should...

Johnson County Emergency Management & Homeland Security, in partnership with **Project Community Alert**, encourages all citizens to purchase a NOAA All Hazards Radio, formerly known as a NOAA Weather Radio. Whether it's an approaching tornado, local roads overrun by flash floods, a derailed train posing a hazardous material threat, or an immediate need to be on the lookout for an abducted child, the radio sounds an immediate alarm. And whether the emergency is national or specific to your community, you can count on the NOAA All Hazards Radio to signal the danger and recommend safety steps.

The radio can be programmed to sound alerts to your preferences. A light on the radio indicates the urgency of the event. Connecting the radio to other attention-getting devices, such as strobe lights, sirens, bed-shakers and peripheral alerting mechanisms, ensures that people with particular challenges can also benefit from the safeguards. The radio also has the advantage of battery back-up should power fail.

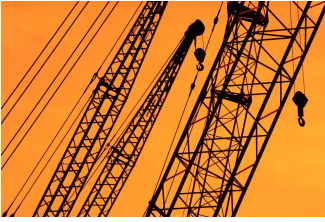
Project Community Alert, which Johnson County is a part of, has partnered with local Price Chopper stores, the Metropolitan Emergency Managers Committee (part of the Mid America Regional Council) and Midland Radio to provide NOAA All Hazard Radios for the low price of \$29.95. These radios are available at Price Chopper. The City of Gardner encourage all citizens to purchase one for their homes, verify their employer has one and to make sure their friends and families have them regardless of where they live in the United States.



Individual, family and business disaster and emergency preparedness is a civic responsibility that pays dividends in lives saved, injuries avoided and property protected. As the events in Indiana and Kentucky pointed out late last year, early warning is a huge part of protecting lives that we all need to take responsibility for and make sure we have a plan to appropriately handle all hazards that impact the Kansas City region.

For questions, contact Johnson County Emergency Management & Homeland Security at 913-782-3038.

Capital Projects Update



Lincoln Lane - Cedar to Moonlight—Design is nearing completion for the rehabilitation of Lincoln Lane west of Moonlight. The City will be acquiring easements and right-of-ways before the construction can begin in 2006.

Main-Moonlight Intersection Project —New signalization has been added on Moonlight Road, southbound, to help alleviate traffic congestion during trains. Additionally, left turn signals have been added for north and southbound Moonlight Road.

Bull Creek Lift Station Project—The project to convert the former Bull Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant to a lift station is under design. The consultant will be presenting the preliminary plans during the first quarter of 2006.

Northside Lift Station

This project will be advertised for construction in February 2006. After an award of the contract, the construction is estimated to take nine to ten months to complete. The new lift station will serve over half of the City, at an estimated construction cost of \$4.7 million.

Water Main Extension Along Moonlight, 167th, Madison and Center Street

Installation of the 12" water main extension along Moonlight Road, north of Madison Street is complete. Construction along Madison Street between Center and Moonlight has begun. The water main extension project will connect the gaps in the existing mains which will improve system pressure.

Community Calendar

Gardner Historical Museum

204 W. Main - 856-4447

Hours: Saturday-Tuesday

1 - 4 p.m. or by appt.

Mid-January - Mid-February:

A Kansas Day Display

Beginning Mid-February:

President's Day Display



Happy Valentine's Day!



Are Your Pets in Compliance with the New Animal Control Ordinance?

This will be the first year in which the City of Gardner has required that cats be licensed. For those who are not familiar with the recent changes in the Animal Control Ordinance, listed below are the important facts pet owners need to know.

The pet license year runs from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006.

Animal License Fees:

For each unneutered male dog/cat	\$12.00
For each unspayed female dog/cat	\$12.00
For each neutered male dog/cat	\$ 6.00
For each spayed female dog/cat	\$ 6.00
Special Permit	\$50.00
Breeders Permit	\$25.00

Animal Impoundment Fees:

First Offense	\$20.00
Second Offense	\$40.00
Third Offense	\$60.00
Each Subsequent Offense	\$60.00



NOTE: In addition to the impoundment fee, there will be a boarding fee of \$20 per day that the animal is housed.

Prohibited Animals

- Wild or exotic animals
- Animals with poisonous bites
- Any vicious animal that has not met the requirements of any special conditions or has been ordered out of the City boundaries or ordered to be euthanized.
- Any animal that would be normally associated with that of being a farm animal: (including but not limited to a horse, cow, pig, chicken, rooster, goat, etc) in areas not zoned for agricultural use.
- More than a combined total of four (4) dogs or cats or any combination of dogs and cats over six months of age.



Citizens who have questions regarding the Gardner Animal Control Ordinance may contact the Department of Public Safety at 913-856-7312 and ask for the Animal Control Officer.

How did Gardner Grow in 2005?



In 2005, the City of Gardner welcomed nearly 1,500 new residents to the community, or about 4 new neighbors a day on average. There are approximately 16,200 people who now call Gardner home. Just five years ago that number was about 10,200.

With the residential growth, the City is beginning to attract additional amenities which will provide a diversity of shopping and dining choices.

In 2005, the City annexed an additional 258 acres into its corporate limits, primarily north and east of 167th Street and Waverly Road. Today Gardner is 9.1 square miles in size. The City installed 8.1 miles of new street, 15.1 miles of new wastewater lines, 5.9 miles of new storm sewer, 7.5 miles of water lines, 9.5 miles of new overhead electric distribution and transmission lines, rebuilt 0.5 miles of distribution line, and added 118 new street lights to the system.

There are currently sixteen subdivisions, with housing construction, occurring within Gardner. Permits for single family home construction reduced slightly in 2005 to 399 from 443 in 2004. The City anticipates similar construction numbers in 2006.



Schedule of Public Meetings (120 E. Main Street)

City Council Regular Meetings

1st and 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

City Council Work Session

2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.
4th Monday, when needed

Planning Commission Regular Meetings

2nd Monday of the month
and 4th Monday
of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Gardner Municipal Court

2nd Tuesday of the month,
the Wednesday following the
2nd Tuesday and the
4th Wednesday of the month
(All court sessions begin at 6:00 p.m.)

Website Address

www.gardnerkansas.com

Visit the City's website at www.gardnerkansas.com

If you would like to receive City
Council Meeting Agendas via email
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